



MONTHLY TRANSPARENCY WATCH

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A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER FOR FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY



TOP NEWS

Unveiling the Nigerian Local Government Integrity Index (NLGII) in Abuja.

Conferring Institutional Independence to Anti-Corruption Agencies: Reps move aligns with the Center For Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity's UNCAC Civil Society Report 2024 Findings and Recommendations.

Accountability at the Grassroots: The Center commences the first Local Government Accountability Framework (LGAF) Workshop in Adamawa State.



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NEW PUBLICATION



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Monthly Transparency Watch, where we highlight ongoing efforts to promote accountability, transparency and good governance through out Nigeria. Enhanced transparency boosts public trust, contributes to economic growth and development, and empowers citizens to engage in decision making processes and hold their leaders accountable.

As we remain committed to promoting transparency and accountability in governance, here's something you should know: your unwavering support is our driving force. Thank you for your continued support. We invite you to explore the stories, insights and observations we've shared and remember to stay the course.

UNVEILING THE NIGERIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTEGRITY INDEX (NLGII) IN ABUJA.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) has launched the Nigerian Local Government Integrity Index (NLGII); a pioneering framework designed to evaluate transparency, fiscal transparency, and service delivery across Nigeria's 774 local government areas (LGAs).

The launch, held on October 3, 2025, at the Board Room Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja, marks a significant step in the Center's ongoing mission to strengthen public sector accountability and advance integrity at the grassroots level. The event brought together representatives from oversight institutions, anti-corruption agencies, state governments, civil society organizations, and the media.

The Center's Program Manager, Oluchi Eze underscored the urgent need for transparency and accountability in local governance in the opening remarks.

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Dr. Musa Adamu Aliyu, SAN, led the commission's delegation at the event, commending the Index and reaffirming ICPC's commitment to enhancing local government frameworks.

In his presentation at the launch, Dr. Umar Yakubu, Executive Director of the Center, underscored the importance of strengthening governance at the local level, noting that sustainable development begins at the grassroots, where citizens interact daily with government systems that must be transparent, accountable, and responsive.

He also emphasized that the July 2024 Supreme Court judgment affirming financial independence for LGAs presents a historic opportunity to address decades of dysfunction and improve governance at the grassroots level.

TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND CORRUPTION RISK ASSESSMENT (TACRA): JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD (JAMB)



We are excited to share our new publication now available on our website
www.fiscaltransparency.org

TACRA reviews MDAs sequentially, offering an in-depth analysis of systemic vulnerabilities. The initiative leverages advanced technology and methodologies consistent with global standards, including the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). It's designed to:

- **Map Corruption Hotspots:** Pinpoint high-risk areas in budgeting, procurement, and service delivery.
- **Promote Preventive Measures:** Recommend reforms to strengthen internal controls, whistleblower protection, and institutional responsiveness.
- **Empower Citizens and Oversight Bodies:** Publish accessible reports that drive advocacy, inform policy reforms, and support judicial interventions. This ensures that the public, as the ultimate stakeholders, can demand accountability.

TACRA 002 report which assesses the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB).

This report calls for strengthened fiscal transparency, open procurement practices, and inclusive policy implementation to uphold transparency and accountability in tertiary admissions management.

[Explore the full publication on our website.](http://www.fiscaltransparency.org)

TACRA 001: NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



CENTER FOR FISCAL
TRANSPARENCY AND
PUBLIC INTEGRITY

TARCA 001 REPORT

ASSESSING THE NIGER
DELTA DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION (NDDC)



CENTER FOR FISCAL
TRANSPARENCY AND
PUBLIC INTEGRITY

TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND
CORRUPTION
RISK ASSESSMENT:
NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NDDC)

TACRA 001
REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2025

www.fiscaltransparency.org

ABOUT TACRA 001 REPORT



This report, Transparency, Accountability and Corruption Risk Assessment (TACRA) provides a comprehensive evaluation of the NDDC's governance practices.

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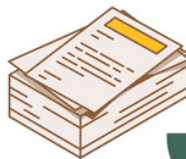
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

Poor compliance,
scored 8/10 for non-
compliance in 2024
FOI ranking



PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Over 13,000 projects
abandoned or
undocumented; 60%
incomplete



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KEY FINDINGS

CORRUPTION RISK

NDDC Scored 77 out
of 100 on Corruption
Risk Indicators
Signalling a high risk
environment.



BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

Very Low, failure
to publish detailed
budgets, omissions,
unaccounted
spendings



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RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Publish budgets
2. Establish FOI desk
3. Implement e-procurement system
4. Strengthen Audits and Sanction Mechanisms
5. Engage communities in project choice
6. Recover funds
7. Train Staffs on Integrity Standard



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AUDIT FINDINGS

- Failure to retire cash advances amounting to N12 Billion
- N1.36 billion excess allowances
- Engaged external solicitors for N1.58 billion without approval
- N199.47 million in irregular consultancy contracts.



TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY INDEX (TII) 2024

- Fiscal Transparency = 12%
- Open Procurement = 0%
- Human Resources and Inclusion = 0%
- Control of Corruption = 0%
- Citizen Engagement = 0%



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ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE GRASSROOTS: THE CENTER COMMENCES THE FIRST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (LGAF) WORKSHOP IN ADAMAWA STATE.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) is coordinating the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (ROLAC) Programme Capacity Building Workshop on the Local Government Accountability Framework (LGAF) for Local Government Areas across Nigeria.

The Center commenced today, 6th of October with Local Government officials from Adamawa State, the workshop aimed to deepen participants understanding of the Framework as a strategic tool for promoting transparency, integrity, and accountability in local governance. Through a combination of technical sessions, and practical exercises the training equipped local government officials with the knowledge and skills necessary to institutionalize accountability mechanisms and improve service delivery at the grassroots level.

The Initiative aligns with the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) ongoing efforts, under the ROLAC Programme, to strengthen governance systems and foster citizen trust in public institutions by ensuring that local governments operate with transparency, fiscal responsibility, and adherence to the rule of law.

ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE GRASSROOTS: THE CENTER CONVENES THE LAGOS STATE EDITION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (LGAF) WORKSHOP.



On the 13th of October, the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI), in Related Offences Commission (ICPC), the its capacity as the coordinator of the Local Fiscal Responsibility Commission (FRC), and Government Accountability Framework (LGAF), the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP). Their convened a capacity building workshop with participation underscored the importance of officials from the Lagos State Local inter-agency collaboration in fostering Government Development Councils. accountability and ethical governance practices across tiers of government.

The workshop, which forms part of the Center's broader efforts to strengthen subnational governance under the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (ROLAC) Programme, brought together key stakeholders from across the state to deepen understanding and effective application of the Local Government Accountability Framework. The engagement was designed to enhance institutional capacities for transparency, fiscal discipline, and citizen-oriented service delivery at the local government level. The workshop featured interactive sessions on the components and implementation of the Local Government Accountability Framework (LGAF), discussions on institutional challenges affecting accountability at the grassroots, and practical strategies to improve compliance with fiscal transparency and good governance. By facilitating such engagements, the Center continues to promote a governance culture rooted in transparency, integrity, and responsiveness to citizens' needs.

In attendance were representatives from all Local Government Councils in Lagos State, alongside officials from critical accountability and oversight institutions including the Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB),

CONFERRING INSTITUTIONAL INDEPENDENCE TO ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCIES: REPS MOVE ALIGNS WITH THE CENTER FOR FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY'S UNCAC CIVIL SOCIETY REPORT 2024 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) welcomes the recent move by the House of Representatives to amend the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) Establishment Act, 2004, seeking to limit the President's power to remove the EFCC Chairman.

Section 3(2) of the EFCC Act, 2004 provides that: "A member of the Commission may at any time be removed by the President for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause) or for misconduct, or if the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Commission or the Interest of the public that the member should continue in office." Under the proposed amendment, the removal of the EFCC Chairman would require the approval of a two thirds majority of both the Senate and the House of Representatives before it can take effect.

This legislative development marks an encouraging step toward deepening institutional independence and accountability within Nigeria's anti-corruption agencies.

In the 2024 Civil Society Parallel Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), the Center identified issues of independence and presidential dominance over anti-corruption bodies as one of the most persistent challenges undermining Nigeria's compliance with international standards.

The report noted that while Nigeria has strong laws and policies, institutional independence remains weak. The power of the President to appoint and remove leadership of key anti-corruption agencies e.g EFCC, has often translated into political interference, selective enforcement, and led to diminished public trust.

By proposing to subject the removal of the EFCC Chairman to two-thirds majority of both Senate and the House of Representatives, it has signaled a commitment to addressing one of the structural deficiencies that the CeFTPI report and the UNCAC framework both underscore: autonomy of anti-corruption institutions from undue influence.

The move aligns with Articles 6 and 36 of the UNCAC, which require States Parties to ensure that anti-corruption bodies have the "necessary independence" to carry out their functions effectively free from any undue influence.

The Civil Society Parallel UNCAC 2024 Report also emphasizes the need for similar reforms across the broader anti-corruption ecosystem including state-level agencies, asset-recovery units, public procurement institutions where weak autonomy and limited civil-society engagement persist, reporting and whistleblowing protection.

ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE GRASSROOTS: THE CENTER HELD THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (LGAF) IN KANO STATE.



The journey towards advancing Local Government Accountability and Transparency continued in Kano State today, 20th October, as the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) held the third in a series of capacity building workshops designed to strengthen governance and accountability structures across Nigeria's 36 states. This engagement follows earlier workshops successfully conducted in Lagos and Adamawa States, marking another important step in the nationwide implementation of the Local Government Accountability Framework (LGAF).

The workshop brought together officials from Kano State's Local Government Councils, as well as representatives of key government institutions and oversight bodies, for in-depth discussions on the principles and practical application of fiscal transparency, ethical governance, and citizen-centered service delivery. The sessions focused on equipping participants with the necessary tools to institutionalize accountability mechanisms, improve budgetary openness, and foster participatory governance at the grassroots level.







The North-Central Development Commission (NCDC), launched to 'tackle' poverty and displacement, has proposed to spend a spectacular N20.2 billion of its budget on 'essential' items like vehicles, travel, and communications.

In a region where over 100,000 people are displaced, the immediate priority, apparently, is not the crisis, but rather ensuring comfortable transport for the Commissioners. Crisis solved!



New Loans to Service Debt !



The Transparency and Integrity Index 2025 (TII) evaluates how Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and other government institutions comply with national laws, policies and guidelines.

This Index is built on five key variables with each representing a core dimension of institutional integrity, from Financials, Procurement, Human Resources, Control of Corruption to Citizen Engagement allotting 20% to each variable.

These variables were selected based on their importance in strengthening transparency and Integrity in the public sector.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity launched the Nigerian Local Government Integrity Index (NLGII) which is a pioneering framework designed to evaluate effective governance across Nigeria's 774 Local Government Areas. The NLGII is built on eight core data pillars.

1. Fiscal Transparency & Accountability - 25%
2. Financial Resources - 20%
3. Anti-Corruption Enforcement - 15%
4. Post Election Governance & Sustainability - 15%
5. Civic Oversight & Media Freedom - 10%
6. Public Service Delivery Outcomes - 10%
7. Digital Infrastructure & E-Governance - 3%
8. Security & Stability Environment - 2%

ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE GRASSROOTS: THE CENTER HOLDS THE EDO STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (LGAF) CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP.



The Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI), as part of its mandate to strengthen governance and accountability mechanisms at the subnational level, has concluded the Edo State leg of its ongoing nationwide capacity building workshops on the Local Government Accountability Framework (LGAF). The engagement forms part of a comprehensive initiative spanning all 36 states of the federation, under the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (ROLAC) Programme, aimed at promoting transparency, integrity, and improved service delivery at the grassroots.

The Edo State workshop held on the 27th of October brought together officials from Local Government Councils across the state and representatives of key oversight and regulatory institutions to engage in interactive sessions focused on the principles of good governance, fiscal accountability, and citizen participation in local administration. Participants explored practical approaches for institutionalizing transparency tools within their councils, discussed strategies for enhancing responsiveness to community needs, and shared experiences on the challenges and opportunities of governance reform at the local level.

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